MARRIED AND SINGLE STRIKERS.

The following article is taken from the San Francisco Alta. . It puts a vital question in a plain way:

In the great stockyard strike in Chicago the married men with families to support were overborne and outvoted by the single men. The former had at home hostages to fortune, mouths to feed, young to cherish. The latter were without ties or responsibilities. The family man could not readily change his locality to secure new employment, for his household must go with him, and travel costs. The single man's household was under his hat. If he quarreled with his bread and butter in Chicago he could make up with it elsewhere, so he used the powder of a labor union to force a strike which shortened the fuel and the fare of thousands of families, while he felt no pinch and suffered no hardship, but enjoyed the chance to show his power. The married man, however, found himself bound by his labor union to betray, the obligations of his union matrimonial, for a wage-worker does this when he permits others to control him to the abandonment of his employment and the loss of his wages. His idle days are never made up to him. The work undone does not accumulate, like water in a weir that gains in power as it does in depth. The time he loses is rather like the water gone past which does not come back to turn the wheel again. But, unhappily, the need of his wife and children for food and fire does not stop with his wages. The single man has only to ask himself if he have a mouth. The married man has many mouths to feed.

Such a strike is an object-lesson against one union or the other. If a man who has by marriage made himself responsible for the welfare of wife and children, finds it necessary to join a labor union to make wages for their support, because he is not allowed to work at all as a "scab," the policy of the unions should be directed to the permanency and security of employment, and their power should not be used to enforce unprofitable idle

The utility and propriety of an industrial system has no better test than the percentage of marriages amongst the wage-workers. If this percentage is normal there will be a less number of single women seeking employment in competition with men. If it is below the normal women will be found crowding men in their peculiar occupations, and seeking the same employment at less wages. A woman lives upon less than a man for she is more frugal. She wastes no money on tobacco and liquor and billiards and cards. She is free from the petty vices which cut so largely into the income of the average man, and, therefore, her appearance in the army of bread-winners means a lower rate of wages, simply because she spends no money idly.

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The papers are protesting against the wealthy women of New York wearing \$100 rose buds at balls, while the poor go to bed hungry. These writers do not seem to consider that the extravagances of the rich keep the poor from starving. The man who sold the rose bud did not go to bed hungry.

When the rich decide on going to bed hungry, then will the poor be cinched. Every dollar turned loose by the rich in extravagance makes its way down to the people who need it, and helps make money

We hope to see the time when the rich of New York will want \$1,-000 rose buds for their fashionable balls. Such expenditures will drive the wolf from many a door where it now howls dismally.

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